

9-08-2022 – SEPTEMBER REGULAR MEETING

Present:

Councilman Mike Domster
Councilman Leonard R. Hochadel
Councilman Matthew Krist
Councilman John D. Marsh
Supervisor Beverly A. Gambino

Also Present:

Highway Superintendent Donald Hopkins
Town Clerk Jennifer L Bray
Approx. 6 guests in person

Supervisor Gambino called the regular September meeting to order at 6:30 PM with the Pledge to the Flag led by Gerard Whittington.

Supervisor Gambino stated that the first item on the agenda was the approval of the minutes from the Regular August meeting held on August 8th. **On a motion by Krist, seconded by Domster, the minutes were approved, as submitted. Carried, 5 ayes, 0 noes.**

Supervisor Gambino stated that the next item on the agenda is to approve the payment of the bills.

Warrant #9 of 2022, including vouchers #499 through #553, totaling \$156,657.76 of which \$40,452.18 was for the General Fund, \$117,084.89 was for the Highway Fund and \$2,120.69 was for the Fire Protection Fund. On a motion by Hochadel, seconded by Krist, the Warrant was approved for payment. Carried, 5 ayes, 0 noes.

Departmental Reports were as follows:

Supervisor Gambino reported that the chicken barbeque held for the seniors had gone very well and 270 chicken dinners had been given out. Supervisor Gambino stated that a survey from for activities had been given out at the barbeque and that the top responses for things people wanted to do were bus trips, senior swim or water aerobics and a group exercise or walking club. Supervisor Gambino reminded the board that there is a Senior Thanksgiving Dinner planned for November 17th as well as a bus trip to Kleinhan's Music Hall on December 15th. Lastly Supervisor Gambino stated she had attended the Supervisors Round Table hosted by the Town accountants, Drescher and Malecki. She noted that Tom Malecki had bought the baseball backstop from the town park. Mr. Malecki informed the Supervisor that he had offered to give the highway department employees money for helping takedown the backstop which they declined therefor they passed the integrity test he was doing.

Councilman Marsh reported that Councilman Domster had called the County regarding mowing of Savage Rd. form RT. 39 to the County Line but nothing has been done. Councilman Marsh suggested writing a letter to the County regarding the mowing issue. Supervisor Gambino asked Councilman Marsh to write a letter to the County. Next Councilman Marsh reported that the Chaffee Water Company was for sale. He noted that customers have not been billed in almost three years. Councilman Marsh asked if there was anything the town could do on behalf of the residents regarding the old unbilled amounts so they do not have a large amount due all at once. Supervisor Gambino stated that she would reach out to the Town Attorney regarding this. Lastly Councilman Marsh noted that the bathrooms at Manion Park are still not done and asked if one side of them could be opened now. Supervisor Gambino stated that they could not and that there are still no sinks in the bathrooms. Supervisor Gambino noted that until the construction is done that the build still belongs to the contractor. Supervisor Gambino stated that she will be speaking to Emilio at MRB regarding this and the work to still be completed at the pool.

Councilman Domster reported that he and Councilman Hochadel had met with the Highway Employees again regarding their contract and would need to go into executive session for discussion.

Councilman Hochadel reported that the concerts in the park had gone well and were well attended. Councilman Hochadel he had sent a letter to the state regarding the intersection of Genesee Rd. and Rt. 16.

Councilman Krist reported that he spoke with Dave Baker from Waste Management regarding the debris on the side of Rt. 16 and that it has been cleaned up.

Superintendent Hopkins reported that the pump for the pool had broken and the only one that could be found to replace it was in Iowa therefore the old pump had to be repaired. Superintendent Hopkins asked the board if they wanted to purchase the pump from Iowa as a backup or to replace the old pump and use the old one as a backup. After a brief discussion the board agreed to purchase the new pump. **On a motion by Marsh, seconded by Hochadel, Superintendent Hopkins was given permission to order a new pool pump at a cost of \$4680.00 which includes shipping costs of \$244.44. Carried, 5 ayes, 0 noes.** Next Superintendent Hopkins reported that he had received a speed limit reduction request from the owner of Mel's Diner on Rt. 16. Superintendent Hopkins stated that he reached out to the State DOT and they require a letter on Town letter head to conduct a speed and safety study. It was agreed that the Town Clerk and Highway Superintendent would write the letter. Next Superintendent Hopkins reported that he had also received a request for speed limit signs and a study to be done on Middle Rd. from the Pratham Rd. to the Town Line with the Town of Concord. After a brief discussion the Board agreed to submit a TE9 Speed and Safety Study form to Erie County. **Therefore the following resolution, to be**

known as Resolution #20 of 2022, was moved for adoption on a motion by Gambino, seconded by Krist:

Resolution #20 – 2022

TE 9 Speed Limit and Safety Study

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Sardinia has received a request for signage to be placed on Middle Road advising motorists of the legal speed limit and,

WHEREAS, the Town Board has also received a request to lower said speed limit due to multiple accidents on said Road between Pratham Rd and the Town of Sardinia Town Line and,

WHEREAS, Middle Road is a road within the Town of Sardinia,

WHEREAS, the Town Board of Sardinia are in agreement that signage for the speed limit should be placed and is in the best interest of the Town, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of Sardinia are in agreement that a speed limit reduction to 45 mph would be in the best interest of the Town, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board approves a request to ask for a Speed Limit Reduction study to be done on Middle Rd from Pratham Rd to the Town of Sardinia Town Line.

DULY ADOPTED, this 8th day of September, 2022 by the following vote: Domster, aye, Hochadel, aye, Krist, aye, Marsh, aye, Gambino, aye. So resolved, 5 ayes, 0 noes.

Lastly Superintendent Hopkins reported that he added a “no outlet” to Timeless View Dr. and that he will be looking into a new regulation passed by the State allowing speed limits in Hamlet areas to be reduced to 25 mph.

Supervisor Gambino stated that the next item on the agenda was for discussion on cameras at Manion Park. Supervisor Gambino stated that she has a quote from Amherst Alarm in the amount of \$4,471.00. Supervisor Gambino noted that this is the company that did the cameras in Veterans Park. After a brief discussion the board agreed to have Amherst Alarm install cameras at Manion Park. **On a motion by Marsh, seconded by Domster, the installation of cameras at Manion Park was approved with a cost of \$4,471.00. Carried, 5 ayes, 0 noes.**

Supervisor Gambino stated that the next item on the agenda was regarding the phone system at the Town Hall. Supervisor Gambino noted that the current contract was up for renewal but she has not been able to get a new pricing without a full financial application being done. Supervisor Gambino noted the a quote has been received from Vaspian and it was noted that this was the same bid that was done for the Town and Village of East Aurora therefor the Town could piggyback off of this bid. Supervisor Gambino noted that there would be an equipment cost of \$3860.00 but that the Town would save \$205.00 a month over our current leased system from Avaya. After a brief discussion the Board agreed to switch phone system to Vaspian. **On a motion by Marsh, seconded by Domster, the Board accepted from Vaspian for a new phone system with an equipment cost of \$3860.00. Carried, 5 ayes, 0 noes.**

Next Supervisor Gambino stated that she has received an Engineering Proposal from MRG Group for planned work at Veterans Park including a walking path and potential shelter. Supervisor Gambino noted that the total cost for the proposal is \$35,040.00 and that this was for the Engineering services only not the cost of the projects. After a brief discussion the Board agreed to accept the proposal. **On a motion by Marsh, seconded by Krist, the Board accepted the Engineering Proposal from MRB as submitted. Carried, 5 ayes, 0 noes.**

Supervisor Gambino stated that the next item on the agenda was discussion of the 2023 Budget for the General Fund lines and Highway Fund lines. Supervisor Gambino noted that there was an 8% wage increase in the 2023 Budget as a starting point for discussion. Supervisor Gambino noted that for the most part there were only slight increases to most of the lines or no changes. Supervisor Gambino noted that the Programs for the Aging line A6772.400 had a large increase due to the cost of trips going up and to make up for them not getting to do much during COVID. The next line with a large increase was under Parks line A7110.20 for Capital Improvement due to planning for a walking path at the park and other potential park projects. Next Supervisor Gambino noted that she had received a nice letter from the Historical Society outlining the fundraising that they have done, grants they have applied for and received and two years of financial statements. Supervisor Gambino stated that based on the effort put forth by the Historical Society she increased their budget line to the \$15,000.00 amount that they have requested. Supervisor Gambino asked the Board if they would like to consider entering into a three year contract this year instead of only a one year. After discussion the board agreed to do a three year contract for \$15,000.00 per year with the Historical Society. **On a motion by Hochadel, seconded by Marsh, the Board agreed to enter into a three year contract with the Sardinia Historical Society. Carried, 5 ayes, 0 noes.** Lastly Supervisor Gambino noted that since the last meeting when the Street Lighting Fund budget lines were discussed that she has received notice that NYSEG will be asking for a 31% increase to their rates therefor the numbers discussed for the budget may need to be reworked. After discussion it was agreed that the Supervisor would rework the budget amounts for the Street Lighting Fund.

Supervisor Gambino then turned the floor over to Highway Superintendent Hopkins to discuss the Highway Fund Lines. It was noted that the Contingent Line set up in the 2022 budget has been moved to zero as it is not legally allowed. Superintendent Hopkins began a review of the Highway Lines noting the lines with increases. Mr. Hopkins stated that line DA5110.440 Road Construction Materials increase to

\$185,000.00 due to increases costs. Next under Highway Machinery line DA5130.200 Equipment was increased to \$290,000.00 to cover the potential costs of a new truck and line DA5130.430 Repair and Maintenance increased to \$30,000.00 also due to costs increases. Under Snow Removal line DA5142.430 Parts and Labor had a slight increase to \$30,000.00. It was noted that due to a cost increase that the Hospital and Medical Insurance line DA9060.80 increases to \$60,000.00. Under the Highway Revenues the Sale of Equipment line was increased to \$10,000.00 based on the potential sale of the Peterbuilt truck. Supervisor Gambino asked if there were any comments or questions on the Highway Fund Lines. There were none.

Supervisor Gambino opened the floor to the Board members to discuss any potential wage increase. Supervisor Gambino noted that the 8% that was in the Tentative Budget was a starting point for discussion. Councilmen Marsh stated that 8% was high. Councilmen Krist noted that 8% is high but that inflation is also high. Councilman Krist stated the 5% seemed like a fair increase. Councilman Hochadel agreed. Supervisor Gambino stated that the Town has a small group of really great people currently who are all trustworthy and reliable. Councilman Domster stated that 5% sounded good as well. **On a motion by Krist, seconded by Hochadel, the Board agreed to set a 5% wage increase in the 2023 Town Budget. Carried, 5 ayes, 0 noes.**

Supervisor Gambino stated that the next item on the agenda was to set a Public Hearing for the Community Block Grant program. She stated that this Public Hearing would be held on October 13th at 6:30 pm with the regular Town Board meeting directly following. **On a motion by Marsh, seconded by Domster, the CDBG Public Hearing was set for October 13th at 6:30 pm. Carried, 5 ayes, 0 noes.**

There being no other business to come before the Board, Supervisor Gambino asked for a motion to move to Executive Session to discuss contract negotiations for the Highway Contract. **On a motion from Domster, seconded by Hochadel, the Board moved to Executive Session at 7:39 pm. Carried, 5 ayes, 0 noes.**

On a motion from Marsh, seconded by Krist, the Board returned from Executive Session at 8:01 pm. Carried, 5 ayes, 0 noes.

There being no further business to come before the Board, on a motion by Krist, seconded by Marsh, the meeting was closed at 8:02 p.m., carried, 5 ayes, 0 noes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Town Clerk